के लिए पर्याप्त सावधानी बरतती है कि इन आयातों से घरेलू चाय उद्योग पर कुप्रभाव न पड़े तथा इससे विश्व बाजार में भारतीय चायों की छवि भी खराब न होने पाए।

वर्ष 1993-94 तथा 1994-95 के दौरान चाय के वास्तविक आयात के कम्पनीवार ब्यौरे उपलब्ध नहीं है। ऐसी कम्पनियों द्वारा चाय के आयातों के स्रोत ऐसे अलग-अलग एककों के वाणिज्यिक निर्णय पर निर्भर करते हैं; जो चाय का आयात करते हैं। तथापि, उपर्युक्त अवधि से नवम्बर, 1994 के दौरान भारत में चाय के कुल आयात निम्नानुसार रहे हैं:—

वर्ष	मात्रा मी० टन में	मूल्य करोड़ रु० में
1993-94	870	3.99
1994-95 (नवम्बर, 94 तक)	130	0.71
		(स्रोत : डी० जी०सी०आई० एण्ड एस० के आंकड़े)

आयातों के लिए मूल देश : इण्डोनेशिया, बांगला देश, केन्या और नेपाल हैं।

Expansion of rubber cultivation in Tripura

*653. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2048 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th March, 1995 and state:

(a) what measures Government contemplate for expansion of rubber cultivation in the 31313 ha. which is available for additional rubber cultivation in Tripura;

(b) whether it is a fact that given the backwardness and poor infrastructure available with the State, the realisation of such good possibilities for the expansion of rubber cultivation is possible only if daily consumer need based local industry is set up;

(c) if so, whether Government envisage in public sector an investment in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) In order to expand the rubber cultivation in Tripura, an area of 5000 ha. is proposed to be brought under World Bank Assisted Rubber Project (for 1993-94 to 1997-98). Out of this 5000 ha., about 2000 ha. has already been brought under plantation and remaining 3000 ha will be covered during next three years (i.e. 1995-96 to 1997-98). In addition to this, an area of 2500 ha. is also proposed to be brought under rubber cultivation in Tripura under various schemes outside the World Bank Assisted Project. The Rubber Board in collaboration with the Govt. of Tripura is implementing various rubber-based settlement projects for the shifting cultivators. The Board also implements Rubber Plantation Scheme where various kinds of subsidies are provided to the growers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Supply of Covered Wagons instead of open Box Wagons by Railways to CIL

*654. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway Ministry supplied covered Wagons against the demand for open Box Wagons by Coal India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the number of covered Wagons received by CIL during March, 1994 to March, 1995, month-wise details thereof;

(c) how far the coal supply to the consumers have been affected during this period in terms of tonnage because of short supply of Open Box Wagons;

(d) the reaction of the Government regarding short supply of Open Box Wagons; and

(e) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited indicate to Railways the names of the sidings where manual loading arrangements exists. Railways have the flexibility to supply either open or covered wagons in such sidings. According to information received from Ministry of Railways, 6647 rakes with covered wagons were provided from March, 1994 to March 1995 in manual sidings.

(c) According to Ministry of Railways there is no significant difference between the carrying capacity of Open and Covered wagons.

(d) and (e) Coal India Ltd. have intimated that due to shortage of wagons with the Railways, almost all the consumers are affected to some extent and it has become difficult to meet the demand of different consumers. Railways have been/are being requested to step up wagon availablity for coal movement.

Special Facilities for Export of Perishable Agricultural Products

*655. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1997 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide any special facility for the export of perishable agricultural products such as fruits, flowers and vegetables etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Some of the facilities provided for export of perishable agricultural products such as fruits, flowers, and vegetables, inter-alia include :—

(i) Providing financial assistance for development of infrastructural facilities such as purchase of specialised transport units and establishment of pre-cooling/cold storage facilities;

(ii) Soft loans given for setting up of grading|processing centres, auction platforms, ripening|curing chambers and quality testing equipments;

(iii) Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging, and strengthening of quality control;

(iv) Establishment of walk-in-type cold storages for export consignments awaiting clearance;

(v) Setting up Air Cargo facilities for cargo booking and customs clearance facilities under one roof;

(vi) Streamlining and simplification of plant quarantine procedures and expeditious clearance of cargo.

Strategy to Boost Trade and Investment with Nepal

*656. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Nepal has asked Indian Industrialists to invest in his country;